

REMARKS

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the ticket with name & address and bin for drawing as well as the drawing website must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

Applicant has amended the drawings accordingly.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. A website is a virtual construct that has no physical existence – it exists merely as a stream of bits on a computer. The tickets & bin of claim 19 are physical. It is impossible to conduct a drawing of physical lottery tickets on a website that exists only in the virtual world. Examiner interprets this claim to mean that the results of the lottery drawing are displayed on a website.

Applicant has amended the claim accordingly.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-6, 9, 12, & 14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okuniewicz (US Patent Number 6,585,589) in view of Quinn (US Patent Number 3,688,276).

The Examiner agrees that Okuniewicz does not teach visually displaying to the player the number of coins needed to generate a ticket or the number of coins inserted by the player. Nor does Okuniewicz teach resetting the counted coins to zero once a ticket is generated. Although these may be common functions on modern vending machines, this is not a common function, nor has the Examiner shown this feature on any gaming machine. The Examiner points to Quinn to show a lottery ticket dispenser which shows the number of coins needed to generate a ticket. Again, Quinn does not show the gaming machine of the present invention, nor is there any reasoning to combine Okuniewicz with Quinn as Okuniewicz as previously stated dispenses his tickets at random and therefore does not want to show the user how many coins are needed to generate a ticket.

In the case of Quinn, a person is actually putting money into a machine in order to buy the object in the machine, i.e., the lottery ticket. In Okuniewicz, a person is putting money into a machine to play the gaming machine. If the person plays the gaming machine enough, i.e., a random amount of times according to Okuniewicz, a ticket may be generated at some random point.

Further, Okuniewicz does not teach resetting the counter since a player adds coins and the counter keeps counting coins. However, since it is random, there is no need to reset any counter. Clearing the counter lets the player know that if he wants another ticket, he has to put in more money, which is what is taught by the present invention and not taught by Okuniewicz in view of Quinn.

Although the Examiner states that these features add to user convenience and are, as previously pointed out, extremely well known, they are not known or obvious with the gaming machines of the present invention.

Therefore, Claim 1 is not anticipated or obvious over the prior art. For these same reasons, Claims 2-6 and 9 are also not anticipated or obvious over the prior art.

Claim 12 has been amended to show said number of coins needed for a ticket to be generated; and resetting said counted coins to zero once a ticket is dispensed. As stated above, these features are not taught by Okuniewicz and are further not taught by the combination of Okuniewicz and Quinn.

For the reasons stated above, Claims 16, 17 and 19 are not anticipated or obvious over the prior art.

Claims 7, 8, 11, 13 & 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okuniewicz and Quinn as applied to claim 1, 12 above, and further in view of Castellano et al. (US Patent Number 5,477,952).

For the reasons stated above, these claims are not anticipated or obvious over the prior art.

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okuniewicz & Quinn as applied to claim 20 and further in view of <http://www.powerball.com>. For the reasons stated above, Claim 20 is not anticipated or obvious over the prior art.

Applicant believes that the application is now in condition for allowance.

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is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail
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for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on
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Signature: 

Name: Debbie Broderick

Respectfully submitted,



Philip M. Weiss

Reg. No. 34,751

Attorney for Applicant

Weiss & Weiss

300 Old Country Rd., Ste. 251

Garden City, NY 11530

(516) 739-1500